

they can show up with a message that Nevadans want to help.

Along with over 1,000 individual donations, local businesses have also chipped in to make this trip worthwhile for the Nevada foursome. This charitable spirit of the community volunteerism is certain to make the healing process of these tornado-ravaged victims just a bit easier.

I commend the efforts of these four Nevadans and wish upon them safe and prosperous travel this coming week. In speaking for the rest of my Nevada constituents, we wish for the strength and healing for all of those who were affected by this disaster.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I simply cannot understand why my Republican colleagues are so dead set against allowing a debate on campaign finance reform. One hundred and ninety-three Members have signed a discharge petition asking that we simply debate, only Democrats. Not one single Republican was willing to sign that discharge motion.

Americans know that special interest money unduly influences elections and policy. If my colleagues care about gun control, then campaign finance reform is their issue so that the NRA does not call all the shots. If health care is my colleagues' issue, campaign finance reform is for them so they can be heard over the HMOs and insurance companies.

Ordinary people are wondering what the heck we are doing here. I urge the Speaker and my colleagues to do something to debate campaign finance reform now. Let us do it next week and get this bill on the floor to debate it.

U.S. SETS EXAMPLE AGAINST ETHNIC CLEANSING

(Mr. EHLERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I have been in the Congress just a bit over 5 years now, and what has impressed me is the breadth of issues we deal with and the number of troubles that we constantly are called to address, whether in this Nation or abroad. Some of them are heart-breaking.

Right now of course we have the situation in Kosovo, with over half a million and perhaps as many as a million refugees within Kosovo and outside its borders. It is heart-breaking to watch these people, to meet them, to talk to them.

We have had similar situations in Bosnia, where approximately 300,000 were killed in ethnic cleansing; in Haiti with the difficulties there; currently in the Sudan, with approxi-

mately 2 million people dead from either warfare or starvation and the situation getting worse.

Even in our Nation we have problems, whether it is the shooting in Littleton or a tornado in Oklahoma. Sometimes it is easy to get discouraged. But one thing that heartens me is this Nation and its faith in this country and its faith in God. We see evidences of that over and over again as we unite together to face adversity.

We do not engage in ethnic cleansing in this country. We try to learn about each other, to accommodate to each other, to help each other. We do not argue about our religions; we discuss them. We try to express our faith in the manner we best know how.

I believe that we set an example for many others, and I do thank every day the founders of this Nation and the God who guided them in the founding and forming of this Nation.

ADJOURNMENT TO MONDAY, MAY 17, 1999

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1999

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns on Monday, May 17, 1999, it adjourn to meet at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 18, 1999, for morning hour debates.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

BASIC SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FUNDING IMPORTANT FOR LIFE-SAVING DISCOVERIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gen-

tleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, as the Members well know, I am a scientist. In fact, I am the first physicist ever elected to the Congress. That is not a particular badge of merit, but it does give me a different perspective.

I just want to elaborate a bit on some of the issues surrounding basic research, or fundamental research as it is sometimes called. I am frequently asked by my colleagues, and by the citizens of this land, why should we spend money for all this esoteric research? What good can it possibly do? What can come of it?

I want to just give my colleagues one little example that I think is interesting and important. When I was a graduate student at the University of California (Berkeley) in the 1950s, some of my fellow graduate students and some professors down the hall from my laboratory were working on nuclear magnetic resonance.

This was a method that they expected would allow them to measure the magnetic moments of nuclei very accurately. The immediate question that a layman might ask, "Who cares?" The nucleus is so tiny, we cannot see it. In fact if one magnified it 10,000 times, one could barely see it with the world's best microscope. Why do we want to know what the magnetic moment of the nucleus is?

The answer at that time was simply, "It is there, and we would like to measure it and see what we can find out."

My colleagues succeeded. Just a bit earlier, Felix Bloch at Stanford and Ed Purcell at Harvard also succeeded, and they won Nobel Prizes for their discovery of nuclear magnetic resonance. It was used to measure the magnetic moments of a number of nuclei, and we learned a great deal more about the nucleus and its structure as a result of that. But that was not the end, as I will get to in just a few moments.

Also while I was at Berkeley, they had the world's largest particle accelerator there, the Bevatron, which succeeded in accelerating protons to very, very high speeds, very close to the speed of light, thus giving them a great deal of energy. Then they would use these protons to smash into other particles, other protons or other nuclear particles. This generated many sub-nuclear particles, and detectors were built to observe all the different particles generated, and to measure their charge, mass and velocity.

The bubble chamber was invented, and was very useful for this purpose. Its inventor also won a Nobel Prize. Then the spark chamber was developed, and was also useful for observing nuclear reactions.

But then a new problem developed. There was so much data flowing in, it was hard to collect it all and analyze it. So the physicists developed very sophisticated, computerized methods of collecting and analyzing the data. They were successful, and we learned a

lot about nuclear and subnuclear physics.

But so what? Well, I will tell my colleagues what is "so what." We have scientists who took those two very esoteric results of basic science, which had no conceivable everyday use and combined them. By using nuclear magnetic resonance and very rapid computerized data gathering and analysis techniques, we developed the MRI, magnetic resonance imaging, which is the greatest breakthrough in diagnostic medicine in a century, likely the greatest step forward in diagnostic medicine since the discovery of X rays, which incidentally also were discovered by a physicist doing basic research.

□ 0915

So the next time someone asks about the importance of basic research, why should we do it, and why should we spend all this money on it, just ask them if they know someone who has had an x-ray or someone who has had an MRI, and ask them if they think this would have occurred if we had not invested money in basic research.

Basic research drives the engine of medicine, it drives the engine of our economy, and it is high time we recognize that investing in basic science is a good investment for the future, with a very good rate of return. Indeed is a very long-term investment, but, nevertheless, has a very good rate of return. And it is something that is very beneficial to our Nation, to our people, and to the peoples throughout the entire world.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 15 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 1458

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PEASE) at 2 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1141, 1999 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Mr. WOLF submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 1141) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes:

CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 106-143)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1141) "making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes," hav-

ing met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert: *That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes, namely:*

TITLE I—EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

CHAPTER I

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

EMERGENCY GRANTS TO ASSIST LOW-INCOME MIGRANT AND SEASONAL FARMWORKERS

For emergency grants to assist low-income migrant and seasonal farmworkers under section 2281 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 5177a), \$20,000,000: Provided, That the entire amount shall be available only to the extent an official budget request for \$20,000,000, that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, is transmitted by the President to the Congress: Provided further, That the entire amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of such Act.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING MARKETS, INCOME, AND SUPPLY

(SECTION 32)

For an additional amount for the fund maintained for funds made available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), \$145,000,000: Provided, That the entire amount shall be available only to the extent an official budget request for \$145,000,000, that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, is transmitted by the President to Congress: Provided further, That the entire amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement under section 251(b)(2)(A) of such Act: Provided further, That the Secretary of Agriculture may waive the limitation established under the second sentence of the second paragraph of section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), on the amount of funds that may be devoted during fiscal year 1999 to any one agricultural commodity or product thereof.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for "Salaries and Expenses", \$42,753,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the entire amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For additional gross obligations for the principal amount of direct and guaranteed loans as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 1928-1929, to be available from funds in the Agricultural Credit Insurance Fund, as follows: farm ownership loans, \$550,000,000, of which \$350,000,000 shall be for guaranteed loans; operating loans, \$370,000,000, of which \$185,000,000 shall be for subsidized guaranteed loans; and for emergency insured loans, \$175,000,000 to meet the needs resulting from natural disasters.

For the additional cost of direct and guaranteed loans, including the cost of modifying loans

as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, to remain available until September 30, 2000, as follows: farm ownership loans, \$35,505,000, of which \$5,565,000 shall be for guaranteed loans; operating loans, \$28,804,000, of which \$16,169,000 shall be for subsidized guaranteed loans; and for emergency insured loans, \$41,300,000 to meet the needs resulting from natural disasters; and for additional administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$4,000,000: Provided, That of the total amount appropriated, up to \$29,998,000 may be transferred to the "Farm Service Agency Salaries and Expenses" account with prior notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: Provided further, That the entire amounts are designated by the Congress as emergency requirements pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

Funds appropriated by this Act or by the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105-277) to the Agricultural Credit Insurance Program Account for farm ownership and operating direct loans and guaranteed loans may be transferred among these programs with the prior approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM

For an additional amount for the "Emergency Conservation Program" for expenses resulting from natural disasters, \$28,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That funds made available under this heading by Public Law 105-174 to provide cost-sharing assistance to maple producers to replace taps and tubing that were damaged by ice storms in northeastern States in 1998 may be used to carry out any activity authorized under the Emergency Conservation Program: Provided further, That funds made available under this heading may be used for restoration of streambanks in the Northeast in non-flood prone areas as determined by the county committees: Provided further, That the entire amount shall be available only to the extent that an official budget request for \$28,000,000, that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, is transmitted by the President to the Congress: Provided further, That the entire amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of such Act.

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION FUND

LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM

An amount of \$3,000,000 is appropriated to the Secretary to implement a livestock indemnity program. Such program shall be effective only for losses beginning on May 2, 1998, through the date of enactment of this Act from natural disasters declared pursuant to a Presidential or Secretarial declaration requested prior to the date of enactment of this Act. The Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, provide benefits at a level and in a manner similar to the Livestock Indemnity Programs carried out during 1997 and 1998: Provided, That in administering the program, the Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, utilize gross income and payment limitations conditions established for the Disaster Reserve Assistance Program for the 1996 crop year: Provided further, That the entire amount shall be available only to the extent an official budget request for \$3,000,000, that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, is transmitted by the President to the Congress: Provided further, That the entire amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of such Act.